

U.S.S.N. 10/648,137
Streichsbier *et al.*
AMENDMENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-68 were examined. Claims 1, 10, 11, 13, 14, 26, 27, 31, 34, 35, 38, 42-44, 51, 52, 63, and 64 are amended. Claims 9, 12, 41, 49, and 50 are canceled. Claims 69 through 78 are newly presented. No new matter has been introduced.

Claims 26, 27, 63, and 64 have been amended to correct for the informalities cited by the Examiner. By way of example and not limitation, support for the enablement of those claims can be found in paragraphs 39 and 64. Claim 35 has been amended to depend off of claim 1. Claims 12, 13, 14, 31, 34, 35, 38, 51, and 52 are also amended to correct for the informalities cited by the Examiner.

CLAIM 1 AND 42 ARE PATENTABLE OVER THE CITED REFERENCE

Claim 1 recites a first collector positioned to receive waste material released from the filter during a filter cleaning event. Claim 1 also recites a second collector positioned downstream of said first collector and a vacuum device positioned to pull cleaning fluid and waste material into at least one collector. Claim 1 is substantially similar to claim 12 which was indicated allowable over the cited art. As claim 1 recites elements not shown or suggested in the cited art, Claim 1 is allowable over the cited art.

Claim 42 is allowable over the cited art for substantially the same reason as cited in claim 1.

CLAIMS 2-8, 10-11, 13-40, 43-48, 51-68 ARE PATENTABLE OVER THE CITED REFERENCES

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The above claims are either dependent off of claim 1 or claim 42 and are thus allowable, among other reasons, because they depend from an allowable base claim.

CLAIMS 69-78 ARE PATENTABLE OVER THE CITED REFERENCES

Claim 69 through 78 are allowable as they correspond to claims indicated as allowable by the Examiner and have been rewritten into independent form. Specifically, claim 69 through 78 correspond to claims 15, 21, 23, 24, 25, 37, 53, 59, 61, and 62. Claim 72 corresponds generally to claim 24 and should be allowable as the suction mask is deemed allowable as indicated by the allowance of claim 61. Support for the suction mask and its novelty can be found with reference to paragraph 60 in the published application and Figure 3 which shows one embodiment of a suction mask.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims as amended overcome the Examiner's rejections previously presented and are allowable over art cited by the Examiner. As this response addresses all issues raised by the Examiner in the previous office action and the independent claims are generic to the elected species, this reply is fully responsive to the Examiner's previous office action.

It is submitted that the present application is in form for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, including petition fees and extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 08-1641 (Docket No. 38578-0013 US).

Respectfully submitted,

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Paul Davis, Reg. No. 29,294

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE & McAULIFFE LLP
Customer No. 25213
275 Middlefield Road
Menlo Park, California 94025
Telephone: (650) 324-7000
Facsimile: (650) 324-0638

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